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TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner J. Hook
Patent Examining Corps
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Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM: Curtis B. Hamre

OUR REF: 12052.47US01
TELEPHONE: 612.336.4722

Total pages, including cover letter: 7

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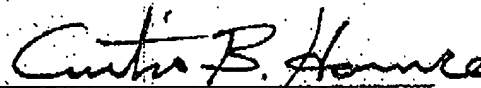
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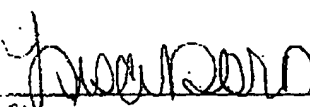
Applicant: TANAKA ET AL.
Serial No.: 10/079,611
Filed: FEBRUARY 19, 2002
Group Art Unit: 3752
Our Ref. No.: 12052.47US01

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PATENT

S/N 10/079,611

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	TANAKA ET AL.	Examiner:	J. HOOK
Serial No.:	10/079,611	Group Art Unit:	3752
Filed:	FEBRUARY 19, 2002	Docket No.:	12052.47US01
Title:	PIPE MEMBER.		

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AMENDMENT UNDER RULE 111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated October 22, 2002, please amend this application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 11 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In the pipe member of an integral type shown in Fig. 11, the material, outer diameter and thickness are determined according to a section where strength and rigidity are most required. Accordingly, there is overspecification for such a section where strength and rigidity are not required, resulting in overweight. The manufacture of the pipe member of the split type shown in Fig. 12 is highly costly because of the joint.--

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1, 5 and 6, without prejudice.

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